

Eglwys St Ffagan, Aberdâr
St Fagan's Church, Aberdare

All Sorts Service and the Baptism of
Rosie Nita Thomas and Elsie Mavis Thomas

Sunday 3rd December 2023

Advent Sunday



When the bell rings all stand to sing the entrance hymn

ENTRANCE HYMN

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Chorus:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

Chorus:

3. O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Chorus:

4. O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Chorus:

5. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law,
in cloud, and majesty and awe.

Chorus:

THE GATHERING

Priest In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Priest Grace and peace be with you.

All **And keep you in the love of Christ. Amen.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

A member of the congregation says

God of Abraham and Sarah, and all the patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make his home among us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

The first candle of the Advent wreath is lit, then all say together

Lord Jesus, light of the world, born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king: be born in our hearts at Christmas, be King of our lives today. Amen.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

All remain standing. The priest introduces the theme of the service and invites everyone to call to mind the wrong things we have done and said.

All **Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what we ought to have done. We are sorry and truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us in his way to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Priest Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All sing

GLORIA

Refrain Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

1. Lord God, heavenly King,
peace you bring to us;
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we sing our song of praise. *Refrain*

2. Jesus, Saviour of all,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away our sins, O Lord,
have mercy on us all. *Refrain*

3. At the Father's right hand,
Lord, receive our prayer,
for you alone are the Holy One,
and you alone are the Lord. *Refrain*

4. Glory, Father and Son,
glory, Holy Spirit,
to you we raise our hands up high,
we glorify your name. *Refrain*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit

A READING: 1 Corinthians 1. 3-9

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. I always give thanks to my God for you because of the grace he has given you through Christ Jesus. For in union with Christ you have become rich in all things, including all speech and all knowledge. The message about Christ has become so firmly established in you that you have not failed to receive a single blessing, as you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be faultless on the Day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is to be trusted, the God who called you to have fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Priest This is the word of the Lord *All* **Thanks be to God**

All stand

GOSPEL ANTHEM

Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.
Jesus is Lord of all the earth, he is the King of creation.
Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 13. 24-37

Priest The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Priest Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Mark

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“In the days after that time of trouble the sun will grow dark, the moon will no longer shine, the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers in space will be driven from their courses. Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in the clouds with great power and glory. He will send the angels out to the four corners of the earth to gather God's chosen people from one end of the world to the other. “Let the fig tree teach you a lesson. When its branches become green and tender and it starts putting out leaves, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that the time is near, ready to begin. Remember that all these things will happen before the people now living have all died. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. “No one knows, however, when that day or hour will come – neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son; only the Father knows. Be on watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come. It will be like a man who goes away from home on a trip and leaves his servants in charge, after giving to each one his own work to do and after telling the doorkeeper to keep watch. Watch, then, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming – it might be in the evening or at midnight or before dawn or at sunrise. If he comes suddenly, he must not find you asleep. What I say to you, then, I say to all: Watch!”

Priest This is the Gospel of the Lord *All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

All sit for the talk

THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM

The priest addresses the parents:

The baptism of its new members is an occasion of great joy for the Christian Church. In this sacrament, we are reborn as God's children, and are made followers of Christ, members of his body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. Will you accept these things for Rosie and Elsie?

We will.

In asking for Rosie and Elsie to be baptized, you are accepting the responsibility of bringing them up as a Christian. In caring for them, will you help them to keep God's commandments by loving God and neighbour as Christ has taught us? Will you pray for them, and draw them by your own example into the community of faith?

With the help of God, we will.

The priest addresses the godparents:

Will you support and help Rosie and Elsie's parents in doing these things?

With the help of God, we will.

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Will you welcome Rosie and Elsie and do your best to uphold them in their life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

The priest addresses the parents and godparents:

You have declared your wish for Rosie and Elsie to be baptized. We therefore now invite you to respond to Christ's call.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Almighty Father, you sent your Son into the world to destroy the powers of darkness. Hear our prayer for Rosie and Elsie: deliver them from evil, give them light and joy and fill them with your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Signing with the Cross

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the child who is to be baptized, saying:

Rosie/Elsie, I sign you with the sign of the cross and claim you for our Saviour Jesus Christ. Never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life. Amen.**

The Profession of Faith

The priest addresses the parents and godparents:

We invite you now to profess the Christian faith.

Do you believe in God the Father, the Creator of all?

I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

The priest addresses the congregation:

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Blessing of the Baptismal Water.

The priest, candidate, parents and godparents gather at the font; the congregation turns to face the font.

We give thanks to you, O God:
we bless your holy name.

For your gift of water to nourish and sustain all life,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through the waters of the sea
you led the children of Israel from slavery to freedom:
we give you thanks and praise.

At his baptism,
your Son Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit:
we give you thanks and praise.

Through the power of that same Spirit, sanctify this water that your children who are washed in it may be united with Christ in his death and resurrection. Cleanse and deliver them from all sin; bring them to new birth in the family of your Church and make them inheritors of your kingdom: through Jesus Christ our Lord whom, by the power of the Spirit, you raised to live with you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism.

Rosie/Elsie, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The priest may anoint the child on the crown of the head with chrism, saying:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace. As Christ was anointed priest, prophet and king, may you daily be conformed to his image. **Amen.**

The Giving of the Light.

The priest gives a lighted candle to each of the newly baptized.

You have received the light of Christ;
Walk in this light all the days of your life.
**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

THE PEACE

All stand. The priest introduces The Peace and then says:

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always
All **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We greet each other with a sign of peace.

During the following hymn a collection will be taken.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Jesus bids us shine,
with a clear, pure light,
like a little candle burning in the night;
In this world of darkness, we must shine,
you in your small corner,
and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine, first of all for Him
well He sees and knows it if our light grows dim;
he looks down from Heaven to see us shine
you in your small corner,
and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around,
many kinds of darkness in the world abound;
sin and want and sorrow, so we must shine,
you in your small corner
and I in mine.

THE THANKSGIVING

The priest takes the bread and wine

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Priest The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is always right, wherever we are, to thank you and to praise you, God our Father and King for ever, through Jesus Christ, your Son. Who in the fullness of time came among us opening to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he comes again to judge the world, revealing the light of his presence that we may behold his power and glory. So here on earth, with the angels and archangels and with everyone in heaven we praise your name and sing:

All **Holy, holy, holy, holy; holy, holy, Lord God Almighty; and we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love, Holy, holy, holy, holy.**

Gracious Father, gracious Father, blessed is the one who comes to us in your name; and we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love, gracious Father, gracious Father.

We sit or kneel

Father in heaven, listen to the prayer we make in Jesus' name; through the Holy Spirit's power, gentle as a dove, may this bread and this wine be for us Jesus' body and blood. Father, we remember when Jesus had supper with his friends the night before he died, he took the bread; he thanked you, broke it, gave it to his friends and said: Take this and eat it – this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me. After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; he thanked you, gave it to his friends and said: All

of you drink from this cup, because this is my blood – the new promise of God's love. Do this every time you drink it to remember me.

Together we remember that Jesus is always with us and say:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come in glory.

Father, as we remember your Son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and rose again, we offer you these and all the gifts you freely give to us. Send your Holy Spirit to be with us and all who share this bread and drink from this cup. Help us to trust you, bring us closer together and welcome us, with all your people, into Jesus' glorious kingdom.

The priest sings: By him, with him, through him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours almighty Lord, Amen, Amen, Alleluia!

All sing: Amen, Amen, Alleluia! Amen, Amen, Alleluia! And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love, Amen, Amen, Alleluia!

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

All Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, for we all share in one bread.

We sing

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy; bearer of our sins, Lord Jesus, show us mercy; Jesus, Lamb of God you take away the sins of the whole world: give us peace, Lord, give us peace, Lord.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

We come forward as directed to the nave altar to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. We keep a time of silence after the hymn/s

COMMUNION HYMN

1. Father, we adore you,
lay our lives before you.
How we love you!

2. Jesus, we adore you ...

3. Spirit, we adore you ...

1. The advent of our King
our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing
in strains of holy joy.

2. The everlasting Son
incarnate deigns to be;
himself a servant's form puts on,
to set his servants free

3. Daughters of Sion, rise,
to meet thy lowly King;
nor let thy faithless heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

4. As Judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again,
and his true members all unite
with him in heaven to reign.

5. All glory to the Son
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever One,
through all eternity.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After the notices, all stand

Priest Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
All **His love is everlasting**

All God our deliverer, awaken our hearts to prepare the way for the advent of your Son; that, with minds purified by the grace of his coming, we may serve you faithfully all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Priest The Lord be with you:
All **And also with you.**

The priest gives a blessing.

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

1. God is love: his the care,
tending each, everywhere.
God is love, all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him!

Chorus:

Sing aloud, loud, loud!

Sing aloud, loud, loud!

God is good! God is truth!

God is beauty! Praise him!

3. Jesus lived on the earth,
hope and life brough to birth
and affirmed human worth,
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us.

Chorus:

2. None can see God above;
we can share life and love;
thus may we Godward move,
seek him in creation,
holding every nation.

Chorus:

4. To our Lord praise we sing,
light and life, friend and King,
coming down, love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty.

Chorus: